

Table of flood stages during May 1938—Continued

[All dates in May unless otherwise specified]

River and station	Flood stage	Above flood stages—dates		Crest	
		From—	To—	Stage	Date
MISSISSIPPI SYSTEM—continued					
Arkansas Basin—Continued					
Neosho:	Feet			Feet	
Neosho Rapids, Kans.....	22	20	26	24.2	21
		12	13	25.0	12, 13
LeRoy, Kans.....	23	19	28	27.8	23
		30	30	23.6	30
Iola, Kans.....	15	14	14	15.5	14
		20	(¹)	20.5	24
Oswego, Kans.....	17	22	(¹)	23.3	30
Fort Gibson, Okla.....	22	26	26	22.0	26
		31	(¹)		
North Canadian:					
Canton, Okla.....	6	5	8	7.5	7
		18	21	11.0	19
		22	26	8.3	24
Yukon, Okla.....	8	Apr. 28	2	10.2	Apr. 29
		4	12	11.2	8
		19	(¹)	12.6	22
(East) Oklahoma City, Okla.....	14	22	23	14.6	22, 23
Arkansas:					
Ralston, Okla.....	16	22	23	16.4	22, 23
Webbers Falls, Okla.....	23	24	28	23.9	26
Fort Smith, Ark.....	22	23	29	25.0	25
Van Buren, Ark.....	22	23	30	25.1	25, 26
Dardanelle, Ark.....	22	25	28	22.8	26
Red Basin					
Ouachita: Monroe, La.....	40	Apr. 16	5	(¹)	
Black: Jonesville, La.....	50	Apr. 7	14	(¹)	
Lower Mississippi Basin					
St. Francis: Fisk, Mo.....	20	25	27	22.4	26
Tallahatchie: Swan Lake, Miss.....	26	Jan. 28	11	31.0	Apr. 12, 13
Yazoo: Yazoo City, Miss.....	29	Apr. 10	10	30.53	Apr. 30
Mississippi:					
Angola, La.....	45	Apr. 17	7	(¹)	
Baton Rouge, La.....	35	Apr. 16	8	(¹)	
Plaquemine, La.....	31	Apr. 17	8	(¹)	
Donaldsonville, La.....	28	Apr. 20	6	(¹)	
Reserve, La.....	22	Apr. 27	1	(¹)	

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River and station	Flood stage	Above flood stages—dates		Crest	
		From—	To—	Stage	Date
MISSISSIPPI SYSTEM—continue d					
Atchafalaya Basin					
Atchafalaya:	<i>Feet</i>			<i>Feet</i>	
Melville, La.....	37	Apr. 17	8	38.5	Apr. 27-1
Atchafalaya, La.....	25	Apr. 27	2	25.0	Apr. 27-2
Morgan City, La.....	6	4	4	6.0	4
		6	7	6.1	7
WEST GULF OF MEXICO DRAINAGE					
Sabine: Logansport, La.....	25	Apr. 20	10	27.4	3.4
Trinity: Liberty, Tex.....	24	Apr. 9	9	26.5	Apr. 30, 1
		Apr. 25	2	28.7	Apr. 30
Guadalupe: Victoria, Tex.....	21	9	11	23.0	10
		16	17	27.3	17
Rio Grande: Espanola, N. Mex.....	7	19	21	7.1	21
GULF OF CALIFORNIA DRAINAGE					
Colorado Basin					
Eagle: Eagle, Colo.....	5	29	(1)	5.4	31
Roaring Fork: Carbondale, Colo.....	5	28	(1)	6.2	30
North Fork of Gunnison: Paonia, Colo.....	9	Apr. 30	1	9.3	1
		14	18	10.0	16
		27	30	9.8	29
Gunnison: Delta, Colo.....	9	Apr. 23	2	10.8	1
		14	19	10.2	16
		27	(1)	11.2	30
PACIFIC SLOPE DRAINAGE					
San Joaquin Basin					
Kings: Piedra, Calif.....	10	13	19	11.9	15
		24	(1)		
San Joaquin: Lathrop, Calif.....	17	28	(1)		
Columbia Basin					
Kootenai: Bonners Ferry, Idaho.....	31	29	June 1	31.5	30
Clearwater: Kamiah, Idaho.....	12	1	1	12.3	1
		24	June 3	14.6	29
Williamette: Portland, Oreg.....	18	29	(1)	20.6	31
Columbia: Vancouver, Wash.....	15	3	7	16.1	5
		26	(1)		

¹ Continued into next month.² Crest occurred previous month.

WEATHER ON THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC OCEANS

[The Marine Division, W. E. HURD acting in charge]

NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN, MAY 1938

By H. C. HUNTER

Atmospheric pressure.—As in the preceding month most of the North Atlantic had pressure greater than normal during May, though the departures from normal were not marked this month. The greatest positive departures were 0.13 inch at Lerwick, Shetland Islands, and 0.12 inch at Madeira. The central part of the North Atlantic had pressure somewhat above normal, and near Iceland also; around the Greater Antilles and over much of the Gulf of Mexico there was a slight excess.

From near southern Greenland to the waters east of Florida and the Bahamas there was a moderate deficiency of pressure.

Among the barometer readings so far secured from vessels the extremes of the month are found to be 30.53 and 28.82 inches. The higher reading was noted on the forenoon of the 23d, by the British steamship *Tucurinea*, about 500 miles to west-northwest of the northwestern coast of Spain. The lower reading was noted early on the 4th about 400 miles northeast of St. Johns, Newfoundland, by the British liner *Duchess of Richmond*.

TABLE 1.—Averages, departures, and extremes of atmospheric pressure (sea level) at selected stations for the North Atlantic Ocean and its shores, May 1938

Stations	Average pressure	Departure	High-est	Date	Low-est	Date
	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inch</i>	<i>Inches</i>		<i>Inches</i>	
Julianehaab, Greenland.....	29.81	−0.04	30.32	6	29.28	1
Reykjavik, Iceland.....	29.96	+0.04	30.51	4	29.47	31
Lerwick, Shetland Islands.....	29.93	+0.13	30.39	2, 4	29.44	29
Valencia, Ireland.....	29.95	0.00	30.39	22	29.38	26
Lisbon, Portugal.....	30.08	+0.11	30.32	12	29.68	5
Madeira.....	30.13	+0.12	30.27	11, 12	29.94	5
Horta, Azores.....	30.23	+0.10	30.46	18	30.08	12
Belle Isle, Newfoundland.....	29.87	−0.02	30.44	29	29.28	2
Halifax, Nova Scotia.....	29.93	−0.04	30.50	30	29.38	16
Nantucket.....	29.93	−0.06	30.40	31	29.20	15
Hatteras.....	29.96	−0.05	30.23	31	29.58	14
Bermuda.....	30.06	−0.05	30.34	26	29.82	5
Turks Island.....	30.01	+0.01	30.08	1, 2	29.92	6
Key West.....	29.98	+0.01	30.14	2	29.85	5
New Orleans.....	29.98	+0.01	30.15	1	29.68	7

NOTE.—All data based on a. m. observations only, with departures compiled from best available normals related to time of observation, except Hatteras, Key West, Nantucket, and New Orleans, which are 24-hour corrected means.

Cyclones and gales.—The month was less stormy than the average May, particularly over the eastern regions. From the 30th meridian to the west coast of Europe there

was no storm of more than slight importance felt after the 3d until the 28th.

A low centered over Labrador on the 1st intensified on the 2d when the center was a little north of the Strait of Belle Isle and remained nearly stationary on the 3d, while a secondary developed over the southwestern part of the Grand Banks. One vessel, while a moderate distance to southward of the Grand Banks, on the evening of the 3d, met a whole gale (force 10). The morning of the 4th found a single though well-marked center located about latitude 48° north, longitude 45° west. Unusually high pressure over and near Iceland blocked advance of this low, and for about a week longer, with usually lessening strength in spite of a few reinforcements from the American continent, it dominated the general region of the Grand Banks, gales being noted in connection with it on several days.

Another low of considerable importance advanced from the Central States to reach the middle Atlantic coast late on the 14th, and showed marked strength from the 15th to the 17th, as it moved slowly northeastward near the New England and Nova Scotia coasts. Two small motor fishing-boats were wrecked on Marthas Vineyard, three of the four men on board being lost, and considerable other damage to shipping was reported. Well off shore to southward two vessels met force-10 winds during the 15th or the early hours of the 16th. These two reports and the report for the 3d of May, already mentioned, are the only Atlantic reports yet received for the month with wind force as great as 10.

By the 18th some decrease of energy was evident, and the storm had become the southern part of a large low-pressure system extending from the southwest part of the Grand Banks to southern Greenland. Within the next 48 hours this southern portion drew away to northward and the main steamship routes ceased to be affected by it.

Late in the month the waters around and for moderate distances to southwestward and westward of the British Isles experienced stormy weather, several vessels reporting difficulties. The low concerned in these developments

showed considerable energy by the morning of the 29th and thereafter, till late on the 30th, was centered about in the latitude of central Scotland, with usually greater extent in an east-west direction than in others. By the 31st a northeastward movement was evident, with some loss of strength.

Fog.—As is usually the case, the May foginess showed a considerable increase over April in about all the areas of moderate to marked frequency. There was mainly more than normal occurrence of fog from Cape Hatteras northeastward to the central Grand Banks; also for a moderate distance to westward of the coasts of France and Ireland.

Over the northern and eastern portions of the Grand Banks and in mid-Atlantic fog was less prevalent than usual, several squares in the chief lanes to northern Europe furnishing either but one report of occurrence or no report whatever.

To southward of 35° latitude a very few, widely scattered reports of fog are found. One rather unusual location, a few hundred miles east of Bermuda, reported fog on the 15th.

For waters close to the United States coast and indeed for the whole North Atlantic, the 5° -square 35° to 40° north, 70° to 75° west, led in days of occurrence with 17. The first 9 days of the month found considerable fog here, while the period from the 18th to 29th inclusive had fog almost every day.

The square, 40° to 45° N., 65° to 70° W., which has parts of the New England and Nova Scotia coasts, had fog on 16 days, distributed through the month about as in the square previously mentioned.

The leading square for the Grand Banks area was that from 40° to 45° N., 50° to 55° W., with 12 days; here the period from 13th to 28th included nearly all the fog that was recorded.

In waters not far west of Europe the leading square was 45° to 50° N., 15° to 20° W., with 7 days. In this part of the ocean practically all the fog was noted within the period from the 10th to 23d.